

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for transferring a directory stored in a server, comprising:  
5 a processor circuit with a processor and a memory in a client;  
directory transfer logic stored in the memory and executable by the  
processor, the directory transfer logic comprising:  
logic to generate a request for a number of data entries to be  
transferred from the directory stored in the server;  
10 logic to refine a resolution of the request to isolate a defined number  
of data entries in the directory; and  
logic to transmit the request to the server to transfer the data entries  
for storage in the memory.  
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2. The system of claim 1, wherein the logic to refine the resolution of the  
request to isolate the defined number of data entries in the directory further comprises logic  
to refine the resolution of the request in response to a data entry overflow message received  
from the server.  
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3. The system of claim 1, wherein the logic to generate the request further  
comprises:  
logic to place a set of search characters in a stack; and  
25 logic to generate the request from a top one of the search characters in the  
stack.
4. The system of claim 3, wherein the logic to refine the resolution of the  
30 request further comprises logic to divide one of the search characters into a set of search  
characters of greater resolution.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the logic to refine the resolution of the request further comprises logic to place the number of search characters of greater resolution on a top of the stack.

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6. The system of claim 5, wherein the logic to convert one of the search characters into the set of search characters of greater resolution further comprises logic to convert the one of the search characters into the set of search characters of greater resolution in response to a data entry overflow message received from the server.

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7. A system for transferring a directory stored in a server, comprising:  
query means for generating a request in a client for a number of data entries to be transferred from the directory stored in the server;  
refining means for refining a resolution of the request in the client to isolate a defined number of data entries in the directory; and  
means for transmitting the request to the server to transfer the data entries for storage in a memory in the client.

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8. The system of claim 7, wherein the refining means further comprises means for refining the resolution of the request in response to a data entry overflow message received from the server.

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9. The system of claim 7, wherein the query means further comprises:  
a stack in a memory to store a set of search characters; and  
means for generating the request from a top one of the search characters in the stack.

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10. The system of claim 9, wherein the refining means further comprises means for dividing one of the search characters into a set of search characters of greater resolution.

5 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the refining means further comprises means for placing the number of search characters of greater resolution on a top of the stack.

10 12. The system of claim 10, wherein the means for dividing one of the search characters into the set of search characters of greater resolution further comprises means for converting the one of the search characters into the set of search characters of greater resolution in response to a data entry overflow message received from the server.

15 13. A method for transferring a directory stored in a server, comprising the steps of:

copying a number of portions of the directory from the server to a client,  
thereby completely transferring the directory to the client;  
storing the directory in the client.

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14. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of copying a number of portions of the directory from the server to the client further comprises the steps of:

generating a request in the client for transfer of one of the portions of the  
25 directory from the server to the client; and  
transmitting the request from the client to the server.

30 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the step of generating the request in the client for transfer of one of the portions of the directory from the server to the client further comprises the step of generating a search character included in the request to be employed to perform a search of the directory to isolate the one of the portions of the directory.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the step of generating the request in the client for transfer of one of the portions of the directory from the server to the client further comprises the step of dividing the search character into a number of second search characters that have a greater resolution in response to a data entry overflow message from the server.

17. A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for transferring a directory stored in a server to a client, comprising:

logic to generate a request for a number of data entries to be transferred from the directory stored in the server to the client;

logic to refine a resolution of the request to isolate a defined number of data entries in the directory; and

logic to transmit the request from the client to the server with a request to transfer the data entries for storage in a memory in the client.

18. The computer program embodied on the computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the logic to generate a request for a number of data entries to be transferred from the directory stored in the server to the client further comprises logic to refine the resolution of the request in response to a data entry overflow message received in the client from the server.

19. The computer program embodied on the computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the logic to generate the request further comprises:

logic to place a set of search characters in a stack; and

logic to generate the request from a top one of the search characters in the stack.

20. The computer program embodied on the computer readable medium of claim 19, wherein the logic to refine the resolution of the request further comprises logic to divide one of the search characters into a set of search characters of greater resolution.

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21. The computer program embodied on the computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the logic to refine the resolution of the request further comprises logic to place the number of search characters of greater resolution on a top of the stack.